Consequently, in view of the present response, the outstanding application is believed to be in condition for formal allowance.

Should the Examiner deem that any further action is necessary to place this application in even better form for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned representative at the below listed telephone number.

Finally, the attention of the Patent Office is directed to the change of address of Applicants' representative, effective January 6, 2003:

Oblon, Spivak, McClelland, Maier & Neustadt, P.C.

1940 Duke Street

Alexandria, VA 22314.

Please direct all future communications to this new address.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

Gregory J. Maier Registration No. 25,599 Robert T. Pous Registration No. 29,099 Attorneys of Record

22850

(703) 413-3000

Fax No.: (703)413-2220 GJM/RTP/PH/me

I:\ATTY\PH\21s\219738\219738 TERM DISC RESP.DOC